

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Meet Officer Tillery, Sixth District Community Services Officer

by Tyeisha Crutchfield

Officer Diane Tillery has been servicing the Sixth District of Montgomery County as a community services officer for five years now. Being the only community services officer in the district, she loves her job and feels that it is very rewarding.

Growing up in Montgomery County, Officer Tillery attended Churchill High School. Now, she is married with three lovely children.

Officer Tillery has been a police officer for 28 years. She started out as a patrol officer, which she loved. But later was selected at the district level to become the Sixth District Community Services Officer.

An average day on the job for her includes checking and responding to emails, responding to phone inquiries and placing phone calls, keeping in touch with community contacts, generating reports, problem solving, and of course solving crime. Officer

Tillery says that with the current economy, there has been an increase in crime of opportunity — not just in the Village, but everywhere. But luckily, there are Neighborhood Watch programs in various neighborhoods, which is very beneficial when trying to cut down crime.

The main responsibility Officer Tillery says she loves most about her job is that she gets to be the problem solver. She says, "Every day is a new challenge." And she loves to see when something finally works out. After hitting the loathed brick wall, she said she always seems to find a solution.

One of the major projects that Officer Tillery recently coordinated was the South Village/Horizon Run National Night Out event on Aug. 4. She loves to party plan, and with the many questions that arise when planning a party, she says that it takes her right back to the problem solving

that she loves so much about her career. Questions like "Will people show up?," "How many people will come?," or "Will they like it?" definitely concerned her during the party planning process. But an hour or so into the event, she says almost 300 people showed up including Montgomery County Chief of Police J. Thomas Manger and County Executive Isiah Leggett. And after the success of this event, the residents of South Village presented an award to her for all of her help with National Night Out.

Officer Tillery plans on remaining in the community services officer position for the next couple of years or so, then she plans to retire after her youngest child graduates from high school. She is truly an asset to Montgomery County and the Montgomery Village community, and we appreciate all of her hard work to keep us safe.



photo submitted by Diane Tillery



Officer Tillery is involved in many events in the Village and is always willing to lend a hand or listen to residents' concerns.



photos by Mike Conroy

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